Increase in Agriculture Production

†4665. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that agricultural production has been increasing at the average rate of 1.5 per cent per year during the last decade;

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(b) if not, the rate of the said increase and whether it is also a fact that due to the rate of increase in population being more than the rate of increase in agricultural production per capita availability of coarse foodqrains, pulses, wheat and rice has reduced; and

(c) if so, the said availability of each product at the beginning and close of the last decade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) The average annual growth rates of agricultural production for the last decade (1990-91 to 1999-2000) are shown in the table below:

Crop	Growth Rate (%)
Rice	2.1
Wheat	4.5
Coarse Cereals	-0.1
Pulses	1.0
Foodgrains	2.2
Oilseeds	2-5
Sugarcane	3.1

The average annual growth rate in population based on the figures of Registrar General of India for the period 1991-2001, worked out ot 2.2 which is at par with the average annual growth rate of foodgrains indicated above. Following table shows the net availability of rice, wheat, coarse foodgrains and pulses in India for the years 1991 and 2000:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Item	Net availability (Grams per Capita per Day)	
	1991	2000
Rice	221.7	203 J
Wheat	166.8	160.0
Coarse Foodgrains	80.0	59.0
Pulses	41.6	31.8

As it can be seen from the table above, the net per capita availability of the commodities has declined over the last decade. The production of some agricultural commodities like pulses and edible oils are inadequate to meet the domestic demand. These commodities are therefore imported to bridge the domestic demand-supply gap. However, agricultural production as a whole is sufficient to meet the needs of the country, as India is a net exporter of agricultural produce.

Loans to Agriculture Sector

†4666. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the loan given to the agriculture sector is being increased constantly during recent years;

(b) if so, the percentage of increase in the loan produced to agriculture sector each year respectively from the year 2001 to 2004;

(c) whether it is a fact that agricultural production has not increased on year to year basis despite increase made in availability of loan; and

(d) if so, the quantity of yearly agricultural production recorded during each of the said years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Total ground level credit flow to the Agriculture sector has registered an increasing trend during recent years. The percentage of increase in the loan provided to agriculture sector each year respectively from the year 2001 to 2004 is given in the table below;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.